ABSTRACT

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Key Words: MOTIVATION, ORIENTATION OF MOTIVATION, NON-THAI STUDENTS, FOREIGN/SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION, SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL MODEL, ATTITUDE/MOTIVATION TEST BATTERY (AMTB), BANGKOK, THAILAND

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Thesis Title: A COMPARATIVE CORRELATIONAL STUDY OF YEARS 4 TO 6 AND YEARS 7 TO 9 NON-THAI STUDENTS' MOTIVATION AND ORIENTATION OF MOTIVATION TOWARD LEARNING THAI AT AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

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The purpose of this study was to determine if there was a significant difference between Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students’ level of motivation toward learning Thai, and to determine if there was a significant association between Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students’ orientation of motivation toward learning Thai at an international school in Bangkok, Thailand. An adapted version of Gardner’s Attitude/Motivation Test Battery (AMTB) was used to collect data from 29 non-Thai students in Years 4 to 6 and 44 non-Thai students in Years 7 to 9 during the second semester of academic Years 2017 – 2018. Descriptive statistics - means, standard deviations, as well as t-Test, and Pearson's chi-squared test were used to analyze the data. The findings indicated that both Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students at the target school had slightly low levels of motivation toward learning Thai and both Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students’ orientation of
motivation was instrumental. Motivation for learning Thai between Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students was not significantly different, while Years 4 to 6 and Years 7 to 9 non-Thai students’ orientation of motivation was found to be significantly associated.

Recommendations for administrators, teachers, and future researchers are provided.